

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A system for informing nodes in a network of the operational status of links. Each node examines the links connected to it. When a change in status is detected, the node records the change, and informs its neighbors. The neighbors receive the information, record the change, and inform their neighbors. Those neighbors receive the information, record the change, inform their neighbors, and the process continues. To prevent the process from continuing forever, specific termination steps are taken. Under the system, each node is equipped with up-to-date information as to the available links within the network. The nodes utilize that information in routing data packets from node to node.